

Message Text

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S E C R E T MANILA 12121

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, US, SN, RP

SUBJECT: A-4 TRAINING IN THE PHILIPPINES

REF: SINGAPORE 3821

1. I AM TROUBLED BY TWO ASPECTS OF AGREEMENT WHICH SINGAPORE IS PREPARED TO SIGN WITH PHILIPPINES CONCERNING RSAF TRAINING PROGRAM FOR A-4 AIRCRAFT AT CLARK.

2. FIRST ISSUE IS STATEMENT THAT "USG HAD GIVEN APPROVAL TO THE PROJECT." THIS IS FACTUALLY UNTRUE. MOREOVER, MANNER IN WHICH SUCH APPROVAL SHOULD BE HANDLED IS IMPORTANT TO US IN CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS. WE ARE INSISTENT THAT ANY USE OF CLARK BY THIRD PARTIES BE SUBJECT OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN USG AND GOP PRIOR RPT PRIOR TO GRANT OF AUTHORIZATION TO THIRD PARTY.

3. SECOND ISSUE IS BLANKET ACCEPTANCE OF PHILIPPINE JURISDICTION AND LAWS BY SINGAPORE. WE ARE, OF COURSE, INSISTING UPON CONVENTIONAL STATUS OF FOCES LANGUAGE WHICH PROVIDES US CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS TO JURISDICTION AND

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APPLICATION OF PHILIPPINE LAW. IF SINGAPORE BUYS THE WHOLE

BIT WITHOUT ANY RESERVATION, THIS WILL BE DULLY PUBLICIZED
BY THE GOP AND COMPARED INVIDIOUSLY WITH OUR DEMANDS.
"SINGAPORE ASEAN BROTHERS" WILL BE PORTRAYED AS "UNDERSTANDING
PHILIPPINE SOVEREIGNTY" WHILE U.S. "WHITE IMPERIALISTS"
WILL CONTINUE TO SUFFER FROM "COLONIAL MENTALITY."

4. I REALIZE SINGAPORE NEEDS THE TRAINING FACILITY SO
BADLY THAT GOS WILL BUY ANY TERMS. HOWEVER, BELIEVE THEY
SHOULD BE MADE TO REALIZE THAT THEY CAN SERIOUSLY
UNDERMINE OUR EFFORTS HERE AND SHOULD BE ADVISED NOT ONLY
TO DELAY BUT TO ASK FOR PARALLEL TREATMENT TO U.S. FORCES,
RATHER THAN ACCEPT LESSER STATUS.
SULLIVAN

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